

REMARKS

Claim 1 is pending in this application.

Claims 2-39 have been canceled without prejudice.

Objections to the Specification and Sequence Listing.

The specification was objected to for informalities in referring to Leu residue 429 as a hydrophilic residue. This inadvertent error has been corrected by deleting reference to residue "429" and replacing it with a reference to residue "427", which is a hydrophilic residue.

The Sequence Listing was objected to because the sequence shown in Fig. 4 is not included in the Sequence Listing with the variable "X" residues at the indicated positions. In response, a Substitute Sequence Listing is submitted herewith including the sequence shown in Fig. 4 as SEQ ID NO: 2. The descriptions of Fig. 4 in the specification have been amended to refer to SEQ ID NO: 2, as well.

No new matter is added by these Amendments. Please enter the Substitute Sequence Listing in this application.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(a).

Claim 1 stands rejected as being anticipated by the dissertation of Hanson. Applicants submit that this dissertation is not available as a reference against the present application, because the dissertation was not available to the public prior to the filing date of the provisional application from which the present application claims priority. Submitted herewith is the Declaration of Catherine Dunn, the librarian at The Scripps Research Institute who catalogued the dissertation of Dr. Hanson when it was submitted to the Kresge Library at Scripps. Ms. Dunn declares that the dissertation was not available to the public prior to February 5, 2003, which is after the priority date of the present application. Also submitted herewith is a Declaration of Lauren Gruenwald, a Customer Service Representative for ProQuest LLC, the publisher of the Dissertation Abstract International database, which catalogues dissertations from around the world, including the dissertation of Dr. Hanson. Ms. Gruenwald declares that the dissertation of Dr. Hanson originally became available for sale online on or about April 2003, and became available for sale as part of the database in 2006, both of which dates are after the priority date of the present application

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(November 14, 2002). Accordingly, the dissertation of Michael A. Hanson is not available as a reference against the present application, and this rejection should be withdrawn.

Conclusion.

In view of the foregoing, this application is deemed to be in form for allowance. Reconsideration, allowance of all claims, and early passage of the application to issue is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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